

The Times' Daily Short Story.

A Wife's Ruse

(Original.)

Edward Martindale was a gentleman of leisure. He spent much of his time at his club or his club, for he belonged to a number of them, the rest either in shooting or fishing or racing horses or some out of door amusement. Those who blamed him for wasting his time could not charge him with indolence or effeminacy. He volunteered for the Spanish-American war and came out with an excellent record. But, the war over, he returned to his shooting, fishing, horse racing and the like.

Martindale had married a very lovely girl who had borne him three children. So far as being true to his wife and children was concerned, he was a model husband, but he would not stay at home. His wife was obliged to pass most of her time alone with her children, while her husband was gad-abouting. This troubled her greatly.

"Some day," she said to him ominously, "you may have cause to regret your neglect of me. I am very lonely, and I may be tempted to encourage some one of the men who would be glad to be my cavalier."

"Wouldn't blame you a bit, my dear, if you did."

A determined look came over the poor woman's face that denoted a purpose. And a purpose was carried out. One afternoon Martindale came home and found a certain man about town, Archibald Griffith, sitting in the library with his wife. The husband greeted the intruder cordially, then went upstairs, where he was soon heard romping with the children. The wife, who had hoped for some expression of jealousy, sighed at the door received a pressure of the hand and an invitation to come again soon.

From that time forward for a season Griffith was a constant attendant upon Mrs. Martindale, always receiving at least outward welcome from the husband. Mrs. Martindale accepted all Griffith's attentions, but her conduct excited no blame. Everybody considered that her husband was getting no more than he deserved, and all had implicit confidence in the wife.

One morning Mrs. Martindale received a note from Griffith announcing that he had suddenly been called away and might not see her again for some time. The note was unwelcome, for she had sickened of the role she was playing and didn't quite know how to end it. As her husband had made no comment on her cavalier's attentions so she refrained from asking what had become of him. Martindale was as much away from home as before, and the wife was obliged to admit to herself that her plan of making her husband jealous had signally failed.

Now Mrs. Martindale was a determined woman and vowed that she would force her husband to show some

concern for her conduct if she had to put herself at fault forever in his eyes. One night when Martindale was playing a game of bridge at his club a telephone message came from his home that his wife was very ill and he must come home at once. He delayed so long that another message came saying that his wife was dying and wished to see him before it would be too late. He finished the game and went home.

Mrs. Martindale was in bed. She was gasping, and her face was livid. A physician stood by, evidently at a loss to know what to do for her. As soon as she had regained her voice she directed that every one should leave the room except her husband. Then she called him close to her and spoke with apparent effort.

"Ned, I have a confession to make. You know Archie Griffith? Well, in that affair I wronged you."

"How?"

"Don't force me to speak the word."

"Criminally?"

"The wife groaned, but said nothing. And you wanted me to know this before you died?"

"Yes," came faintly from the stricken woman.

"Well, Ned, I'm sorry you hadn't taken a more convenient time to tell me. I'm behind in a game of bridge, and I must go right back. Ta-ta."

The bedclothes were thrown off with a jerk, and the sick woman stood on the floor.

"This is too much," she cried. "You care so little for me that even that which can alone hold us and our poor dear little ones together is of no moment to you."

"Bess," said the imperious husband, "you're the biggest liar in America. Do you remember the new butler who came soon after Griffith began his attentions? Well, I put him in to watch you. He saw your cavalier attempt to take liberties with you the night before he left town, and you repelled him with indignation. The next day I gave Griffith the choice of pistols or departure, and he chose departure."

"Oh, Ned, did you really care that much for me?"

"I certainly did, sweetheart, and more. You have done your best to make me show my love for you, and I shall put you to no further trouble. I shall give up amusements and from this time forward devote myself to business, to you and the children. But one who has been so near death needs a brace."

Touching a bell, the butler appeared. His master directed him to dismiss the doctor and to bring up a supper and a bottle of wine.

Martindale kept his word and has since been a model husband in every respect. He says that any woman who loves her husband well enough to confess a fault she hasn't committed deserves to be treated by that husband with the most loving consideration. He has resigned from his club and spends his evenings at home.

MARY ANDERSON.

WANTS 2,000,000 FROM OIL TRUST

Arkansas Files Suit Against Fig Company

ALLEGING CONSPIRACY

Asks Forfeiture of Right to Do Business—Claims That Waters-Pierce Oil Company is Associated With the Standard Oil Corporation.

Little Rock, Ark., July 9.—Attorney General Rogers and Prosecuting Attorney Rhoton of Pulaski county Saturday filed suit against the Waters-Pierce oil company, alleging a conspiracy to control the output and prices of oil and asking damages in the sum of \$2,000,000.

They also ask that the company forfeit its right to do business in Arkansas. The bill alleges that the Waters-Pierce oil company is associated with the Standard Oil company, the Republic oil company and others.

THE SILENCED GRUMBLE.

[A tragedy in two tumbles.]

There was a humble grumble bee. Who grumbled while he hummed. But his grumble soon was humbled. By the tune he humbly hummed.

After rumble and much mumble. Was his humble grumble dumbed. For "I Want You, Miah Honey." Was the tune he humbly hummed.—Judge.

A Golf Rule.



"Keep your head still" is the first rule in golf, and Blunk means to do so.—Punch.

Unconscious Vocalization.

"No, sir, I never yell at a baseball game. It savors too much of barbarism."

"Why, my friend, you were yelling like a wild Indian just a moment ago."

"Who was?"

"You."

"Me yelling?"

"Yes, you."

"Was it when McGee made the three bagger?"

"Yes."

"There goes another—oh, wow, wow, wow, whoopee, row, row, hi, hi, hi, whoop, whoop, whoop! Kill 'em an' eat 'em up! Rah, rah, rah! Look out there; he's got the ball! Yip, yip, yip! He's tied the score, he's tied the score! Hoory, hoory! I'll bet you didn't hear me yell!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Then as Now.

"See here," remarked Miss Singleton rather sharply to Miss Peppery, who had been abroad for some years, "Maud was just telling me what you said to her about my appearance."

"Er—yes," replied Miss Peppery. "I told her you looked just the same now as you did when I left."

"Why, she told me you said I looked old."

"Well?"—Philadelphia Press.

Checkless.

"You may try to hold me in like you did last year," drawled the callow youth in the purple hatband, "but I will see that I go through my vacation this summer unchecked."

"That's what you will!" snapped the old gentleman. "I'll see that checks for you are cut out altogether."—Detroit Tribune.

Just Possible.

Clara—I wish I could believe what he says, but—

Maud—What does he say?

Clara—Why, he says he loves me, yet he has only known me two days.

Maud—Well, perhaps that's the reason.—Pick-Me-Up.

A Theory.

"What makes Duncley keep talking about hot weather?"

"I suppose," answered Miss Cayenne, "it's to get his mind off it. He's one of the people who never give any thought to what they are talking about."—Washington Star.

Contingent.

"Oh," exclaimed the minister, "fishing on the Sabbath! What will your father say?"

"Can't tell yet," replied the lad boy. "If I don't catch nothing I'll catch it; if I do I won't."—Catholic Standard and Times.

Cheese and Lettins.

Romulus, the famous author of "Emile," was exceedingly fond of cheese and in one of his books indicates that he considered it of more educational value than Latin, but as he knew little Latin and much cheese he would naturally be disposed to exaggerate the value of the amusement.

Rest, Health and Comfort to Mother and Child.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays all pain, and cures colic. Perfectly safe in all cases. We would say to every mother who has a suffering child, do not let your prejudices, nor the prejudices of others, stand between you and your baby's relief. The relief that will be sure—yes, absolutely sure—to follow the use of this medicine, if timely used. Price 25c a bottle.

When talking, friends of Nineteen Eight, Good judgment do not lack. The man who hasn't much to say Won't have much to take back.—Denver Post.

Nominations.

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The eggplant requires very rich soil and thorough cultivation, and even then it frequently refuses to grow and plies away under the mysterious trouble known as the "die back."

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BAD BREATH

"For months I had great trouble with my stomach and used all kinds of medicine. My tongue was covered with a greenish film, my breath having a bad odor. Two weeks ago a friend recommended Cascarella and after using them I can willingly and cheerfully say that they have cured me. I shall recommend them to any one suffering from such troubles."—Chas. H. Halpern, 144 E. 7th St., New York, N. Y.



Best for The Bowels. Pleasant, Palatable, Potent, Taste Good, No Gripe, Never Sickens, Cures or Drives Out the Bile, Never Sold in Bulk. The only tablet stamped "C.C.C." Guaranteed to cure or your money back. Sterling Remedy Co., Chicago or N.Y. 55c ANNUAL SALE, TEN MILLION BOXES.

GLEANINGS.

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ALFALFA SEED.

Best Seed and Largest Crops Produced Under Irrigation.

Professor A. M. TEN EYCK, Kansas.

The region lying west of the Missouri river grows most of the alfalfa seed produced in the United States. A large part of this seed is grown by irrigation in the western part of the great plains region, in several of the mountain states and in California. Much seed is also produced without irrigation in the eastern part of the great plains region. The dry climatic conditions of the west make this section of the country better adapted for the production of alfalfa seed than the more humid regions of the central and eastern states. The best quality of seed and the largest crops are produced in an arid climate by irrigation. The supply of water and the weather conditions during the growing period of the crop largely determine which crop to save for seed. Any one of a season's crops may produce good seed, provided the soil and weather conditions are right for growing and maturing the seed. About the same time is required to produce a crop of seed as is required to produce two crops of hay.

Which Crop to Cut.

In the irrigated districts of Colorado and western Kansas the first crop is often saved for seed, the practice being not to irrigate this crop, thus causing a medium but thrifty growth of plant, which, with the favorable weather conditions prevailing in the arid regions, usually seeds well. On the whole, especially in the more humid regions, the second or third crop is more often saved for seed than the first crop, mainly because more favorable weather conditions prevail in the late summer and early fall for maturing the seed; also the insects which may help to fertilize the blossoms are more numerous in the latter part of the season. Only in the southern states is it possible to use a later crop than the third for seed.

Second or Third Crop.

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On the ground that it would profane the historical spot where William Tell performed his most heroic deeds, the Swiss federal council has refused permission to a hotel keeper to construct a funicular railway starting from the Tell plateau.

In those latitudes where the third crop may mature seed before cool weather and frost the choice between the second and third crop for seed is decided mainly by weather conditions at and before the blossoming period. In the northwestern part of the semi-arid portions of Kansas and other western states drought is apt to prevail in the latter part of the season, by which the growth of the third crop is greatly reduced, causing only a slight development of seed. In such districts the second crop should be saved for seed or perhaps the first crop, especially on dry uplands, which may produce only one good crop the first year in a season. In northwestern Kansas and Nebraska it is doubtless safest to use the second crop for seed, as the third crop is apt to be caught immature by frost. In central northern Kansas a